THREE NEW SPECIES OF DRYOPIDAE.

By H. J. CARTER, B.A., F.E.S., and E. H. ZECK.

SIMSONIA EBORICA n. sp.

(Plate vii., fig. 3.)

Elongate ovate, dark bronze, nitid, underside silvery save for a narrow medial red area; legs and tarsi dark (reddish beneath), post tibiae with a thin line of tomentum, antennae very slender, the basal segments yellow, otherwise dark.

Head narrower, eyes less prominent than usual.

Prothorax bilobate, the more convex anterior part separated from the basal by a deeply arched sulcus, extending from anterior angle to beyond the middle, base feebly bisinuate, widest behind middle, sides lightly rounded without sinuation, posterior angles subrectangular, disc rather coarsely and sparsely punctate, a short pre-basal sulcus on each side parallel to sides. Scutellum widely oval.

Elytra wider than prothorax at base, shoulders widely rounded, widest behind middle, striate-punctate, striae feebly impressed, strial punctures large, intervals flat and minutely punctate. Sternal area punctate in middle, prosternal process elongate, metasternum sulcate.

Dimensions: 2 mm. long.

Habitat: N.S.W., Ebor. (F. E. Wilson).

Eleven examples sent by our friend, Mr. Wilson, show the smallest species of the genus, readily distinguished from its nearest ally, S. leai C. & Z., by the deeply arched pronotal sulcus and its silvery underside. Holotype in Coll. Wilson.

Austrolimnius diemenensis n. sp.

(Plate vii., fig. 1.)

Ovate, nitid black above, underside reddish brown, sternal regions darker brown; antennae and legs red.

Prothorax rounded and produced at apex, anterior angles sharply defined, sides very lightly rounded, subsinuate behind, base to apex as 27:20, lateral margins entire, hind angles rectangular, foliate margins separated from disc by deep sulcus, slightly widening towards base, extreme border narrowly raised, whole surface (disc and foliation) minutely, densely punctate, medial sulcus strongly marked, widening at base.

Elytra as wide as prothorax at base, widest near middle, the three lateral ridges less raised than in A. victoriensis C. & Z., the innermost delimited on the inside by a marked groove and row of punctures; seriate punctures smaller than in A. victoriensis, intervals minutely punctate as on pronotum. Underside in general smooth, segments of abdomen concave and pubescent between the raised, glabrous margins, apical segment impunctate, prosternal process rounded, scarcely sinuate. Mid-tibiae of without marginal tooth, with minute spines near base, these becoming wider, blunt teeth on apical half—a fringe of fine hair here—a strong spine at apex, apical segment of tarsi considerably longer than in victoriensis.

Dimensions: 1.85 x 0.95 mm.

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Habitat: Tasmania. Upper Blessington River (Mr. Bryan Plomley,

University of Sydney).

Nine examples were captured by Mr. Plomley. It is superficially very like A. victoriensis, but differs in the tibial structure (see figs. 6, 7, 8, 9), the more strongly marked medial sulcus of pronotum, its finer sculpture and wider form. Holotype in Coll. Carter.

Austrolimnius suffusus n.sp.

(Plate vii., fig. 2.)

Widely obovate, head and prothorax black, the latter with part of lateral margin reddish, elytra with base, wide margins, suture and discal mark black, the rest orange red. Underside and femora brown, antennae, tibiae and tarsi red.

Head, eyes large and more closely set than usual, antennae rather stout.

Prothorax rounded and produced at apex, front angles obtuse, widest behind middle, sides well rounded, base much wider than apex (8:5), lateral carinae narrow, the sublateral carina serrate and converging anteriorly from about posterior third, leaving a subhorizontal area, between carinae, of a pale colour (1), extreme border finely serrate, medial sulcus shallow, wide in middle, narrowing anteriorly and posteriorly, but widening again at base; surface very minutely and closely punctate.

Elytra rather suddenly widened at shoulders, widest behind middle, carinae narrow and little raised, seriate punctures small, those in 4th row, at sides of innermost carinae scarcely apparent; margins strongly serrate; tarsi unusually stout. Prosternal process rather large, sinuate at apical

third.

Dimensions: 1.4 x 0.75 mm.

Habitat: New South Wales, Hastings River and Kindee Creek (H. Davidson and H. J. Carter), Williams River (the late Mr. J. Hopson), Sydney (L. Wassell). This is the species noted in Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., 1930, p. 190, as possibly a variety of A. luridus C. & Z. A long series, however, taken recently in the Hastings River at Long Flat, near Wauchope, shows it to be a very distinct species, not only in colour, but in many structural details, especially the sublateral carina and the form of the pronotal sulcus. Holotype in Coll. Carter.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE VII.

- 1. Austrolimnius diemenensis.
- 2. Austrolimnius suffusus.
- 3. Simsonia eborensis.
- 4. Sternal process of Austrolimnius suffusus. x 42.
- 5. Sternal process of Austrolimnius diemenensis. x 42.
- 6. Fore tibia and tarsus of male A. diemenensis. x 93.
- 7. Middle tibia and tarsus of male A. diemenensis. x 93.
- 8. Hind tibia and tarsus of male A. diemenensis. x 93.
- 9. Middle tibia and tarsus of male Austrolimnius victoriensis C. & Z. x 93.
- 10. Sternal process of Simsonia eborensis. x 42.

Figures 6, 7, 8 and 9 drawn from micro slides.

⁽¹⁾ This character also occurs to a less extent in A. politus King. (Vide pl. ii., fig. 15, of our Monograph).